

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRETOR 00314 171609Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 H-01 /017 W
-----031471 171757Z /46

P R 171545Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0233
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 0314

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SF, PINT, SHUM
SUBJECT: LEAPETSWE MOLOTSANE

REF: STATE 011300

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: MOLOTSANE WAS PICKED UP IN JULY, 1977,
AND CHARGED UNDER SECTION 6 OF THE TERRORISM ACT. HE APPEARED
BEFORE A MAGISTRATE ON NOVEMBER 29 AND WAS REMANDED FOR TRIAL
BUT NO DATE WAS SET. MOLOTSANE IS NOW BEING HELD AT GEZINA
STATION, PRETORIA. HE WAS AMONG A GROUP OF SOME 30 ATTERIDGEVILLE
STUDENTS ARRESTED AND REMANDED AT THE SAME TIME. SOME HAVE NOW
BEEN RELEASED AND THE OTHERS, TWELVE IN ALL, ARE BEING TRIED
IN GROUPS OF FOUR. NO SPECIFIC CHARGES HAVE BEEN LAID.
END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL: MOLOTSANE IS WELL KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY AND
AT THE REQUEST OF HIS FRIENDS, THE EMBASSY CONTACTED SHUN CHETTY
ABOUT DEFENDING MOLOTSANE AND THE OTHERS. CHETTY IS INVOLVED
IN OBTAINING PROPER COUNSEL FOR THEM. END CONFIDENTIAL.

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: MOLOTSANE'S MOTHER, MRS. DOROTHY
MATHAPO, IS A PERMANENT RESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
AND CONTACTED THE EMBASSY BY LETTER ABOUT THE WELFARE
OF HER SON LATE LAST YEAR. BECAUSE SHE WAS A U.S.
RESIDENT, THE EMBASSY INQUIRED ON HER BEHALF AND ASKED
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TO SEE HIM. PRISON OFFICIALS TOLD US THAT MOLOTSANE
WAS WELL BUT THEY WOULD NEITHER ALLOW A VISIT NOR GIVE
US FURTHER DETAILS. THE EMBASSY THEN SUBMITTED A NOTE
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA) ON JANUARY 5
ASKING, ON BEHALF OF MRS. MATHAPO, TO BE ALLOWED TO
VISIT MOLOTSANE. WE WILL BE FOLLOWING UP WITH DFA IF
REPLY NOT FORTHCOMING SHORTLY.

3. WE ARE IN TOUCH WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF MOLOTSANE
AND WILL KNOW WHEN HIS TRIAL COMES UP. WE PLAN TO SEND
AN OBSERVER. BOWDLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 17 jan 1978
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Litigation Codes:
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TAGS: PINT, SHUM, SF
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